

The CP Connection

The Community Partner Newsletter

Issue 22

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"I can see myself in all things and all people around me."

— Sanskrit Phrase

Happy Solstice and Pride Month!

Hello and happy summer everyone.

I began this June with a march through Hollywood in celebration of LGBTQ+ rights and people in Los Angeles. Regardless of your political leanings, if you live in Los Angeles, I hope that one of the things you like about living in this city is the diversity of the types of people who live here. Gay, not gay, person of color or not, citizen or not citizen—all are welcomed in this city. I went to the Pride March to honor and celebrate my feeling that diversity unites us, and was thrilled to see staff from Northeast Valley Health Corp. marching near me (see above photo). Right when I spotted them, the chant was, "Education, not Deportation!" which was both inspiring and timely (Thanks to Northeast Valley for letting me share the photo.)

We are also a city with many challenges, including, like so many other cities and towns in this country, drug and alcohol abuse. I'm pleased that, in partnership with

the Department of Public Health (DPH), we have expanded the type of services that are available free of cost to MHLA participants. This includes Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP), Residential Medical Detoxification Services and Recovery Bridge Housing. We even have smoking cessation services available for MHLA participants now.

All of these services are available via referral to DPH, and there is more information in this issue (the MHLA program is also sending out an official Provider Information Notice (PIN) to clinics with more detailed information about the added services)

Always happy to add services for our patients.

-Amy Luftig Viste
Program Director,
MHLA

Inside this issue:

- ◆ Expanded Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services are now available! See page 2 for more information.

MHLA Adds New Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Benefits!



MHLA is expanding its Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services available to MHLA participants. Many SUD treatments were initially made available to MHLA participants in July 2016, but now with our partner, the Department of Public Health (DPH) Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC), we have expanded SUD treatment options available for MHLA patients.

SUD services are provided through Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) contracts—meaning that MHLA patients can obtain these services via referral to an agency with a DPH-SAPC contract. On July 1 2017, SAPC is launching the System Transformation to Advance Recovery and Treatment, Los Angeles County's Substance Use Disorder Organized Delivery System (START-ODS). MHLA participants are eligible for all services in the START-ODS benefit package, including:

- ♦ **Early Intervention:** This is screening, immediate help, and referrals for ongoing substance abuse treatment at the Medical Home Clinic.
- ♦ **Outpatient Services:** The participant gets treatment for up to 9 hours per week.
- ♦ **Intensive Outpatient:** The participant gets treatment for up to 19 hours per week.
- ♦ **Residential Services:** This is where the participant temporarily lives at the alcohol or drug treatment center while they get help.
- ♦ **Residential Medical Detoxification Services and Withdrawal Management (NEW):** This is a program where the participant temporarily lives at the alcohol and drug treatment center and medical staff will help them through the detox process.
- ♦ **Ambulatory Withdrawal Management:** This is SUD outpatient care.

- ♦ **Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP) (NEW):** Care from doctors and mental health counselors to help the participant with opioid addiction.
- ♦ **Additional Medication Assisted Treatment:** The participant receives medicine in combination with counseling and therapy.
- ♦ **Recovery Bridge Housing (NEW):** Sober living program for individuals in outpatient programs.
- ♦ **Case Management:** Referrals to help the participant including coordination with other health, mental health and social services.

MHLA participants will not be charged for these services. Additionally, MHLA patients will have access to all SAPC network providers that hold a DMC contract beginning July 1, 2017 which is an expansion from the current network of providers.

There are two ways for a MHLA participant to obtain SUD treatment services:

1. *Participants can "self-refer" by calling 1-844-804-7500*
2. *The medical home clinic can refer to a participating SAPC provider.*

Clinics can refer participants to these services by completing a Universal Release Form (with participant's signature) and a completed Screening Brief

Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) form. These documents are on the MHLA website. Additional information is being sent to all clinics in a Provider Information Notice (PIN).

SAPC's website has a helpful tool to help MHLA clinics find available treatment beds with SUD providers. The searchable map option, the Service and Bed Availability Tool (SBAT), can be found at: <http://ph.lacounty.gov/sapc>.

Additional information is available by calling DPH's Substance Abuse Service Helpline (SASH) at **1-844-804-7500** Monday—Friday from 8 AM to 6 PM. (please note this is a new DPH-SAPC number, although the old number will transfer over to this one).

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